

MEDIA RELEASE

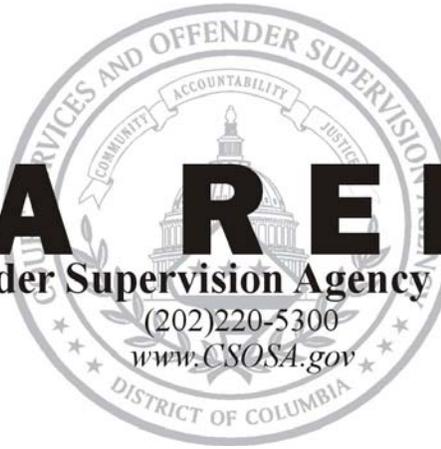
Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia

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For Immediate Release:

January 12, 2007

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Faith-Based Support for Offenders Returning From Prison

Podcasts and Videocasts on Reentry, the Women Offenders' Forum and Faith-Based Activities at <http://media.csosa.gov> (See below) or www.csosa.gov

Women Offenders Forum Planned for Saturday, January 27

Mentors and Offenders Celebrate Faith-Based Accomplishments at St. Luke Center in SE D.C. on Thursday, February 8

Media note: Coverage can be personalized through interviews with offenders & mentors

(Washington, DC)— The Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA—a federal executive branch entity) and the faith community of Washington, DC announce a series of events designed to highlight successful partnerships and to encourage others to join in providing support to returning offenders.

CSOSA provides probation and post-incarceration supervision of approximately 15,500 offenders in DC. CSOSA provides comprehensive, public safety oriented programming and treatment services combining strict accountability with meaningful opportunity. Each year, approximately 2,000 offenders return from federal correctional institutions to the District of Columbia. Many of them need services and the support of strong community institutions to remain drug and crime free.

Over 40 faith institutions throughout the city are working with CSOSA to provide the men and women returning home with fellowship and needed support services.

Podcasts available: Interviews with male and female offenders regarding reentry; Interview on faith-based activities in D.C.; **Videocasts** on woman offenders and faith-

based reentry (from the agency's television series, D.C. Public Safety). **Podcasts** of the TV program are also available. See <http://media.csosa.gov> or www.csosa.gov.

Reviving the Spirit: 30 Days of Reentry Reflection

January 14 – February 12, 2007

Schedule of Events

- January 14 (Sunday) – “Justice Sunday,” coordinated by the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, and the National Alliance of Faith and Justice. Events urging community service will be held at the following faith institutions:
- Peace Baptist Church – NE
 - Campbell AME Church – SE
 - New Commandment Baptist Church - NW
 - Mt. Sinai Baptist Church - NW
 - Church of Scientology – NW
 - Covenant Baptist Church - SW
- January 18 (Thursday) - “Call to Action.” An outreach event to expand participation in CSOSA’s Faith Community Partnership. It will be held at Gallaudet University’s Kellogg Conference Center, located at 800 Florida Avenue, NE, from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Community Supervision Officers (CSOs), mentors, mentees, clergy and seminarians will participate.
- January 20 (Saturday) - Previously Incarcerated Persons (PIPs) Unity Luncheon. This event will be coordinated by PIPs and held at Allen Chapel AME Church, located at 2498 Alabama Avenue, SE, from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm.
- January 27 (Saturday) - Women’s Reentry Forum: “Life After Release.” A forum coordinated by CSOSA’s Faith Community Partnership and held at New Commandment Baptist Church, 633 Park Road, NW, from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm. Women on community supervision and women housed at the Fairview Residential Reentry Center will participate.
- February 3 (Saturday) - “Reviving the Spirit,” an event coordinated by CSOSA and held at Pilgrim Baptist Church, 700 Eye Street, NE, from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm. CSOs, mentors and mentees will

attend workshops focused on building and sustaining the spirit to succeed.

February 6 (Tuesday) - Reentry Health Summit, coordinated by the DC One-Stop Reentry Service Center, and held at THE ARC, 1901 Mississippi Avenue, SE, from 8:15 am – 3:00 pm.

February 8 (Thursday) - “Citywide Reentry Assembly: Mentees are Making It,” coordinated by CSOSA’s Faith Community Partnership and held at St. Luke Center, 4923 East Capital Street, SE, from 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

February 9 – 11 (Wknd.) - “Reentry Worship Weekend.” Reentry related services will be held at faith institutions across the city. See www.csosa.gov for the locations.

Volunteers are needed to mentor to former inmates. Contacts for mentoring opportunities:

Cluster A (Wards 7 and 8), Julia Irving, jirving@ercpcp.org, 202-373-5767

Cluster B (Wards 5 and 6), Diane Sims-Moore, clusterbpbpc@verizon.net 202-547-1090

Cluster C (Wards 1,2,3 and 4), Marie Brown, mariebrown@att.net, 202-726-7400

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